



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

# Crop Progress & Condition Report



National  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week ending March 21, 2010

Released: 3:00 P.M., March 22, 2010

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 4.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, March 21, 2010**. The start of Mississippi’s growing season has been delayed by cold precipitation that has persisted since last year’s harvest. Last week’s clear skies and warm weather offered farmers a chance to begin planting, but the unseasonable weather returned during the weekend with several counties reporting light snow fall. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent short, 56 percent adequate and 43 percent surplus. Feed grain was reported 13 percent short, 86 percent adequate, 1 percent surplus.

Crop progress for week ending March 21, 2010				
Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn, planted	14	--	28	20
Corn, emerged	0	--	3	5
Winter Wheat, jointing	8	--	21	17

Crop condition for week ending March 21, 2010					
Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Blueberries	1	1	13	83	2
Livestock	5	15	39	37	4
Pasture	10	18	39	28	5
Winter Wheat	2	9	34	46	9

## Comments

“We are dry enough to get some burndown out but that is about it.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Some early fieldwork has begun, but recent showers have again slowed the process.”

— Patrick Poindexter, Alcorn

“We have gotten a few days of favorable weather allowing for various types of fieldwork: tillage operations, fertilizer applications, and some corn planted. Again, it is now wet and cold.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“This has been a cold and wet winter that we have not seen in quite a while. Feeding conditions have been deplorable and winter forages have not grown well because of too much rain, too cold temperatures, too much bogging, and not enough time to apply fertilizers when needed.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“Low soil temperatures and excessive moisture are delaying field activities.”

— Scott Cagle, Chickasaw

“The week of March 14th - 20th was dry with Sunday the 21st receiving over 1/2 inch of rain. Fieldwork started the beginning of March, but has been sporadic due to wet weather. Farmers have been disking fields and repairing ruts from last fall harvest but have only been able to work two or three days at a time before wet weather has halted progress.”

— Reid Nevins, Clay

“Hay supplies are very short. Ryegrass pastures are starting to recover from cold, wet conditions. Producers are applying nitrogen to winter grass pastures to encourage growth.”

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“This week saw unseasonably cold conditions. Sunday had a mixture of snow and rain.”

— Shelaine Pennington, Prentiss

“A lot of burndown, ground cutting, and preparation has taken place in the past two weeks of good weather. Some corn has been planted, but no emergence yet, and nothing else has been planted. A handful of fields are still too wet and have had no activity since harvest. Winter wheat looks good, but it is still young. There is very little livestock, so not much of a demand for feed; no shortage.”

— Charlie Bush, Bolivar

“Growers were able to get a lot of fieldwork done the last 10 days. Some corn was planted but not much.”

— Don Respass, Coahoma

“Lots of ruts were filled in last week as growers had a great week of fieldwork.”

— Don Respass, Quitman

“There was not any fieldwork this past week. Side dress applications of nitrogen were made to wheat fields.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Winter wheat has started to tiller. Nitrogen and herbicide applications have been delayed by wet conditions. Winter annual weed control has also been delayed by weather.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Corn planting is almost over in the south end of the county. North end producers are preparing fields for planting due to delays.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Weather was mostly good, but had some rain late in the week.”

— Lester Stephens, Washington

“Most soils still too cold and damp for planting corn.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“We are starting to plant corn. The weather people are predicting rain again. Hopefully they will be wrong and we can step up the corn planting activities. Temps are dropping over the weekend and then there will be a slow rise in the daytime and nighttime temps next week.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“Long winter has delayed plant responses to springtime.”

— Amanda Walker, Lawrence

“A few days of sunshine and warmer temperatures have allowed some growth of ryegrass. There is very little hay left and most cattle are thin right now. Most fields are still too wet to do much work and corn planting time is here.”

— Chuck Grantham, Forrest

“Cool, wet weather has delayed fieldwork for vegetable crops.”

— Wayne Porter, Lauderdale

“Blueberries are blooming, and looks like a potentially good crop, but cold weather is expected next week with light freeze possible. Watermelons are being planted.”

— Judith Breland, Stone

Mississippi Weather Summary for Week Ending 03/21/10													
Division/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Plan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
<b>Upper Delta</b>													
Clarksdale	69	39	51	54	-3	0.00	-1.26	0	1.35				
Cleveland	71	36	53	56	-3	0.53	-0.87	1	1.70				
Lambert 1W	72	38	52			0.55	-0.76	1	1.98				
<b>North-Central</b>													
Batesville	71	36	50	53	-3	0.77	-0.61	1	2.12				
Calhoun City	71	35	52	54	-2	1.23	-0.10	2	3.27				
Hickory Flat	70	33	50	52	-2	0.79	-0.61	2	3.84				
Holly Springs 4N	70	31	51	51		1.32	-0.08	2	3.89				
Independence	71	36	51	52	-1	0.80	-0.39	1	2.94				
Oxford	71	38	52	52		1.27	-0.08	2	5.74				
Water Valley	70	36	51	54	-3	0.91	-0.55	2	3.95				
<b>Northeast</b>													
Booneville	69	35	51	52	-1	0.50	-0.97	2	2.78				
Corinth 7SW	70	36	52	55	-3	0.46	-0.94	1	3.96				
Tupelo 2	69	38	52			0.55	0.00	1	3.13				
Pontotoc Exp Stn	67	38	50	54	-4	0.01	-1.42	1	2.42				
Verona	72	37	52	54	-2	0.42	-0.98	1	3.18				
<b>Lower Delta</b>													
Belzoni	70	43	53	56	-3	0.00	-1.51	0	1.35				
Moorhead	71	36	53	57	-4	0.94	-0.45	1	1.95				
Rolling Fork	73	35	55	56	-1	0.56	-0.87	1	2.07				
Stoneville Exp	68	39	53	55	-2	0.00	-1.28	0	2.06				
<b>Central</b>													
Carthage	71	34	51	56	-5	0.00	-1.40	0	3.43				
Forest 3S	72	34	52	57	-5	0.79	-0.71	1	6.03				
Kosciusko	72	37	51	55	-4	0.73	-0.81	1	3.24				
Winona 5E	69	35	51	52	-1	1.00	-0.47	2	5.97				
<b>East-Central</b>													
Aberdeen				54		0.40	-1.05	1	2.78				
Brooksville Exp	68	43	53			0.05	-1.28	1	3.45				
Columbus	71	38	55	56	-1	0.82	-0.37	1	5.03				
State University	72	39	53	55	-2	0.72	-0.68	3	2.81				
<b>Southwest</b>													
Crystal SPRG Exp	70	33	53	59	-6	0.56	-0.81	1	6.14				
Natchez	74	35	53	60	-7	0.06	-1.50	1	4.55				
Oakley Exp		38		57		0.74	-0.73	1	3.17				
Port Gibson 1NE	73	35	53	56	-3	0.73	-0.77	1	3.71				
Vicksburg	72	36	55			0.59	0.00	1	2.64				
<b>South-Central</b>													
Collins	70	36	51	58	-7	0.60	-0.94	1	3.25				
Columbia	74	37	54	59	-5	0.23	-1.27	1	2.55				
Monticello	76	36	55	58	-3	0.00	-1.54	0	3.30				
Raleigh 6N	70	33	51			0.00	0.00	0	4.77				
Tylertown	73	35	53	60	-7	0.29	-1.15	1	5.11				
<b>Southeast</b>													
Hattiesburg	71	41	54	59	-5	1.89	0.42	2	7.30				
Laurel	72	37	53	58	-5	0.00	-1.42	0	3.34				
Newton Exp	72	34	51	56	-5	0.66	-0.81	2	6.40				
Waynesboro 2W	73	35	52	57	-5	0.00	-1.45	0	3.04				
<b>State</b>	76	31	52	57	-5	0.54	-0.91	1	3.71				

DFN = Departure from Normal.